

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present preliminary amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format for examination on the merits.

By the present preliminary amendment, the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. The changes made to the specification are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

In the substitute Abstract, “front end” has been changed to --leading end--, with additional grammatical changes.

Further, substitute Figures 5C, 6, 8D and 12 are submitted herein. Substitute Figure 5C shows a portion of the peeling layer 402 left at each probe 4. In substitute Figure 6, the rotational indication θ of 101B has been deleted. Further, in substitute Figure 8D, reference numeral “110” has been changed to --111--. Furthermore, in Figure 12, reference numerals “14A” and “14D” have been changed to --12-- and --14A--, respectively.

The substitute figures are believed to be self-evident from the original disclosure and are not believed to raise any issues of new matter.

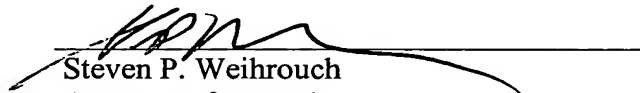
The claims have been also amended by the present response without prejudice to correct minor informalities and to be in more proper format for examination. The claim amendments are not believed to raise any issues of new matter.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and through examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is herewith respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that a personal or telephone interview would be of assistance to place the application in better form for allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Fig. 5C, Fig. 6, Fig. 8D and Fig. 12. These sheets, which includes Fig. 5C, Fig. 6, Fig. 8D and Fig. 12, replace the original sheets including Fig. 5C, Fig. 6, Fig. 8D and Fig. 12.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (4)